

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 SY-05 /063 W

----- 130854

O P 131225Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3909

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, NI, US

SUBJ: UNIVERSITY BENIN STUDENTS CLAIM TO HAVE LETTER CONNECTING

CIA WITH ABORTIVE COUP

1. "NIGERIAN HERALD" MARCH 13 UNDER BANNER HEADLINE "BLOODY AGENTS FINANCED ABORTIVE COUP" REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT UNIVERSITY BENIN STUDENTS' UNION IS IN POSSESSION LETTER WHICH CONNECTS THE U.S. THROUGH THE CIA WITH LAST MONTH'S ABORTIVE COUP. COPIES OF PORTIONS OF LETTER, WHICH SAID TO BE DATED FEBRUARY 14 AND TO BE FROM U.S., WERE GIVEN TO PRESS IN BENIN YESTERDAY. ORIGINAL WAS TO BE FORWARDED TO INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE.

2. ACCORDING "HERALD", LETTER SAID A CIA AGENT CONNECTED WITH COVERT OPERATIONS IN AFRICA WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID AFTER MUHAMMED ASSASSINATION THAT "IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE AMERICANS TO KEEP FACE WITH NIGERIA WHEN IT WAS FOUND OUT THAT AMERICAN WAS INVOLVED IN THE COUP." LETTER REPORTEDLY SAYS CIA SPENT "MANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS" IN THE COUP ATTEMPT. AGENT WAS IDENTIFIED AS LARRY MORGAN WHO "WAS SAID TO BE MARRIED TO A BLACK GIRL, ELIZABETH, FROM GHANA." THE LETTER FURTHER IDENTIFIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MORGAN AS PRESENTLY INVOLVED WITH MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES IN

WEST AFRICA.

3. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED ARTICLE THIS MORNING WITH DIRECTOR MEA AMERICAS DEPARTMENT UCHUNO, WHO ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT FMG WOULD INVESTIGATE THE MATTER. AMBASSADOR ASKED MEA'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING COPY OF LETTER FROM NIGERIAN POLICE. UCHUNO SAID IF THE INVESTIGATION SO WARRANTED, FMG ITSELF "WOULD DEBUNK" THE ALLEGATION. UCHUNO SAID HE THOUGHT HE RECALLED HAVING MET A COUPLE IN LUSAKA SOME TIME AGO WHO MIGHT FIT THE DESCRIPTION OF THE MORGANS. THIS EMBASSY'S CONSULAR FILES REVEAL NO RPT NO RECORD OF A LARRY OR ELIZABETH MORGAN.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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